

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA/IMS:DTKENNEY:LGR
APPROVED BY EA - ROBERT H. MILLER
PM - MR. SCOTT (SUBST)
AID - MS. LITTLEFIELD (SUBST)
EUR/WE - MR. CROWLEY
DOD/OSD - MR. NELSON (SUBST)
OFDA - MR. HOLMES
S/S - MR. ORTIZ
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION
DOD

----- 040875

P R 282304Z SEP 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 241305

EXDIS , CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, ID

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE BY U.S. MILITARY
IN DESTRUCTION OF POISON GAS

REF: (A) DLG JAKARTA 240827Z SEPT 76; (B) JAKARTA 12575.

1. WE ARE EXPLORING WHAT KIND OF EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE CAN
BE PROVIDED SHOULD GOI MAKE A FORMAL REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE
IN DESTRUCTION OF POISON GAS. WE HAVE IDENTIFIED EXPERTISE
WITHIN DOD WHICH COULD BE OF ASSISTANCE AND CAN BE PROVIDED
ON SHORT NOTICE, AS SOON AS FUNDING IDENTIFIED.

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2. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE YOU SHOULD CONTINUE TO URGE

INDONESIANS TO APPROACH DUTCH FIRST. AMONG OTHER THINGS, OUR ABILITY TO RESPOND QUICKLY IS LIMITED BY LACK OF INFORMATION REGARDING GAS IN QUESTION. WE ASSUME DUTCH WOULD HAVE SUCH INFORMATION. ALSO, WE ARE NOT CERTAIN USE OF INTERNATIONAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE ACCOUNT IS POSSIBLE OR APPROPRIATE, AND WE FURTHER FEAR ITS USE MIGHT RESULT IN PUBLIC DISCLOSURE WHICH GOI APPARENTLY WOULD LIKE TO AVOID. USE OF SUCH FUNDS REQUIRES THAT AMBASSADOR DECLARE DISASTER, AND EXPENDITURES MUST BE REPORTED TO CONGRESS. WE ARE LOOKING INTO POSSIBILITY OF USING MAP FUNDS, ALTHOUGH DOD IS DOUBTFUL.

3. WE SUSPECT DUTCH WILL BE WILLING AND ABLE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IN VIEW OF ORIGINS OF CACHE AND THEIR DESIRE FOR CONTINUED EXCELLENT DUTCH-INDONESIAN RELATIONS. IN THE LIGHT OF A DUTCH RESPONSE TO AN INDONESIAN REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE, AND WITH MORE INFORMATION ABOUT TYPE OF GAS INVOLVED, WE WOULD, OF COURSE, BE PREPARED TO SEE WHAT FURTHER ASSISTANCE USG MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE. WE WILL ALSO INVESTIGATE AVAILABILITY OF EXPERTISE FROM COMMERCIAL SOURCES.

4. WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY BRINGING THIS MATTER TO ATTENTION OF FDA DIRECTOR, GENERAL ANDERSON WHO IS SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE IN JAKARTA SEPTEMBER 29. ROBINSON

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NNN

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